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EXAMINER

DOAN, PHUOC HUU

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2617

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/935,082

Applicant(s)

INDIRABHAI, JYOTHIS

Examiner

PHUOC H. DOAN

Art Unit

2687

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 November 2005.
2a) ☒ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 11/28/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant's remarks: applicant respectfully draws the attention of the Examiner to the fact that one clause recites "distributing a global clock" and that another clause recites "distributing said offset to at least one master device other than said first master device".

Examiner response: examiner was unclear the way of interpretation the terms "distributing a global clock" and "distributing offset" are repeat over the remarks. However, it was clearly that the applicant's specification described Offset 308 represents a phase difference between global clock 306 and a local clock of master device 202. This difference may be predetermined and constant, or it may be realized by calculating the difference between the value of global clock 306.....For example, the offset can be used to adjust the phase of the global clock. In the systems that implement clocks as an integer count, such as described in the BT Specification, the offset can be added to or subtracted from the current count to achieve a **phase shift (Applicant's specification, par. [1036])**. It means

for standard the bluetooth used the global clock and local clock to determine a clock offset or difference in timing that indicates the difference in synchronization between the indicated initial timing to produce a synchronized timing (col. 4, par. [0043] of Crosbie) in the network (**not one master device and number of slave devices**). Crosbie discloses specifically the global clock and local clock to be offset in three masters (3 master devices), any single of master has two function as acting a master or slave that depend on the synchronizing of timing of the network (Fig. 6, and 7). Muller specifically discloses the global clock and local base on the functionality of one master and number of slave devices (Fig. 4, of Muller). Crosbie discloses more than one master **on the network “more than one piconet”** (col. 2, par. [0011] of Crosbie) that more than one master devices comprising: a global clock and local clock to produce a synchronized timing (col. 1, par. [0009] of Crosbie).

In summary: applicant's present invention relates to wireless network communication, to determine specifically to synchronizing the timing of wireless communication devices. Crosbie teaches the same functionality of present invention, with the processing that global clock and local clock in the network to produce the synchronizing of timing of wireless

communication devices (access point), his reference added more detailed in the process such as a gold access point 24-4 sending a timing signal 42-3 to a silver access point 24-5.....It was the same function on the Applicant's specification on par. [1008] to determine synchronize its timing.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-30 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Muller (US Pub No: 2002/0031196) in view of Crosbie (US Pub No: 2002/0114303).

As to claim 1, 10, Muller et al discloses a method for distributing timing information amongst a plurality of master devices, the method comprising: distributing a global clock (Fig. 2, the common time reference 20) to a first master device (Fig. 1, item 2) from the plurality of master devices wherein said first master device operates according to a local clock that is independent of said global clock (column 2, paragraphs [0030], and paragraph [0038]); determining an offset between said global clock and said local clock (column 4, paragraphs [0049-

0051]); However, Muller does not specifically disclose a method for distributing timing information amongst a plurality of master devices; and distributing said offset to at least one master device other than said first master device.

Crosbie specifically discloses disclose a method for distributing timing information amongst a plurality of master devices (Fig. 6, col. 7, par. [0072], and col. 8, par. [0084]); and distributing said offset to at least one master device “col. 7, par. [0067-0074]” other than said first master device (col. 8, par. [0076-0079]). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide a plurality of master devices as taught by Crosbie to the system of Muller in order to transfer to another device without being required to resynchronize adjust the slave devices.

As to claim 2, Muller further discloses that wherein said global clock comprises a local clock of one of the plurality of master devices (Fig. 1, paragraph [0047]).

As to claim 3, the combination of Muller and Crosbie further disclose that wherein said offset is distributed over a communication pathway linking said first one of said master devices to said at least one of said master devices (col. 4, par. [0040], and col. 5, par. [0049] of Crosbie).

As to claim 4, the combination of Muller and Crosbie further disclose that wherein said communication pathway comprises a wired communication pathway (col. 4, par. [0040] of Crosbie).

As to claim 5, the claim is rejected for the same reason as set forth in claim 3.

As to claim 6, Muller et al further discloses that wherein said distributing said offset comprises storing said offset in a memory accessible to said plurality of master devices (column 4, paragraph [0051]).

As to claim 7, Muller et al further discloses that wherein said distributing said offset comprises providing said offset upon receiving a request from one of said plurality of master devices (column 4, paragraph [0053]).

As to claim 8, Muller et al further discloses that wherein each of said plurality of master devices stores said offset (column 4, paragraph [0049]).

As to claim 9, Muller et al further discloses that wherein said master device comprises a Bluetooth.TM. device configured to act as a master (column 1, paragraph [0018], and column 3, paragraph [0040]).

As to claim 11, Muller et al further discloses that wherein each of said master devices includes a local oscillator and wherein said global clock comprises

a clock signal generated by the local oscillator associated with one of the plurality of master devices (column 4, paragraph [0050]).

As to claim 12, the combination of Muller and Crosbie further disclose that wherein said offset is stored in a central location and provided to at least one of said master devices (col. 8, par. [0076-0079] of Crosbie).

As to claim 13, the combination of Muller and Crosbie further disclose that wherein said offset is stored locally at said second master device (col. 8, par. [0076-0084] of Crosbie).

As to claim 14, the claim is interpreted and rejected for the same reason as set forth in claim 9.

As to claim 15, 23, Muller et al discloses a system comprising: a communication pathway (Fig. 1, item 8, column 2, paragraph 0029); a global clock (the common time reference 20), coupled to said communication pathway (column 2, paragraphs [0031-0034]); and a plurality of master devices (Fig. 1, item 2) coupled to said communication pathway (column 2, paragraph [0033]), wherein each of said master devices includes: a local clock generator that generates a local clock (column 4, paragraph [0050]), and means for determining an offset between said global clock and said local clock (column 4, paragraph [0050]), wherein said offset is distributed to at least one of said master devices (column 4, paragraphs

[0051-0056]). However, Muller does not specifically disclose a communication pathway; a global clock, coupled to said communication pathway; and a plurality of master devices coupled to said communication pathway.

Crosbie discloses a communication pathway (col. 4, par. [0040], and col. 5, par. [0049]; a global clock (Fig. 6, item 38-1, col. 7, par. [0067-0068]), coupled to said communication pathway (col. 4, par. [0040], and col. 5, par. [0049]); and a plurality of master devices coupled to said communication pathway (col. 7, par. [0071-0075]). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide a plurality of master devices coupled to said communication pathway as taught by Crosbie to the system of Muller in order to transfer to another device without being required to resynchronize adjust the slave devices.

As to claim 16, the claim is interpreted and rejected for the same reason as set forth in claim 4.

As to claim 17, the claim is interpreted and rejected for the same reason as set forth in claim 5.

As to claim 18, Muller et al further discloses that wherein said global clock comprises one of said local clocks (column 4, paragraph [0050]).

As to **claim 19**, Muller et al further discloses that comprising a memory coupled to said communication pathway, wherein said offsets are stored in said memory (column 4, paragraph [0049]).

As to **claim 20**, Muller et al further discloses that wherein said offset is distributed upon request by one of said master devices (column 4, paragraph [0051], and column 5, paragraph [0066]).

As to **claim 21**, Muller et al further discloses that wherein each of said master devices further includes a local memory for storing offsets associated with at least one of said master devices (column 4, paragraph [0049]).

As to **claim 22**, the claim is interpreted and rejected for the same reason as set forth in claim 9.

As to **claim 24**, the claim is interpreted and rejected for the same reason as set forth in claim 4.

As to **claim 25**, the claim is interpreted and rejected for the same reason as set forth in claim 5.

As to **claim 26**, Muller further discloses all the limitations in Fig. 1

As to **claim 27**, the claim is interpreted and rejected for the same reason as set forth in claim 19.

As to claim 28, the claim is interpreted and rejected for the same reason as set forth in claim 20.

As to claim 29, the claim is interpreted and rejected for the same reason as set forth in claim 21.

As to claim 30, the claim is interpreted and rejected for the same reason as set forth in claim 9.

Conclusion

4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to PHUOC H. DOAN whose telephone number is 571-272-7920. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30 AM - 6:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, LESTER G. KINCAID can be reached on 571-272-7922. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

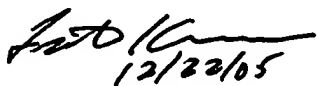
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Phuoc Doan

~~12/16/2005~~

06/22/07 PHD


12/22/05
LESTER G. KINCAID
SUPERVISORY PRIMARY EXAMINER